

SIGNAL

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Emergence of New or Enlarged Intelligence Requirements

AS WE MOVE INTO THE DECADE of the 1980s, it is certain that the intelligence community will be called upon increasingly to provide vital support to our national security decision-making processes. In this regard, I am reminded of a perceptive statement made by a senior intelligence official in 1977 in specific reference to the changing intelligence environment. This official noted that two things stand out most clearly:

- There are more things about which we need intelligence data.
- There is the prospect that intelligence may be harder to obtain."

Our intelligence efforts have historically been heavily oriented toward the military aspects of world events and remain largely so today. But while military considerations remain vitally important, our need for economic and political intelligence has an increasing impact on our national security as well. This is a central feature of the contemporary environment: the emergence of new or enlarged intelligence requirements which are in addition to, rather than instead of, more traditional categories of intelligence.

Looking at some recent events, it seems to me that an extremely useful outcome of the SALT II debate within the Congress was a generally increased awareness of the capabilities of intelligence to contribute to our national security not only in respect to SALT but also across the entire range of our security interests.

In addition to the obvious need to maintain our intelligence focus on coverage having long-range strategic importance, I believe it is clear that our need for political/economic/military intelligence on other functional and geographic areas will continue to grow. Re-

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cent events in Iran and Afghanistan underscore this need. I believe that we must have a sizeable increased investment in both intelligence collection and analytic resources during the next decade if we are to serve the nation's vital interests and take maximum advantage of the opportunities available to us to produce intelligence of great value to this country.

It is my personal conviction that a prudent investment now in our overall intelligence posture will pay back huge dividends as we move further into the 1980s. The challenge facing those of us in the Intelligence Community is to plan wisely and be able to articulate our programs well in order to build the necessary levels of understanding and support in the decision-making levels of both the Executive Branch and the Congress. The debate must be focused on what we as a nation need in the way of first class intelligence, not on what we can do without. An integral part of this process will necessarily involve a more detailed education of the public (to the maximum extent possible within sensible classification bounds) of the vital role of intelligence in relation to the national security of the United States.

## Improving Our Analytical and Dissemination Capabilities

THE 1980s WILL BE a dynamic and challenging period for people in the intelligence business. Throughout the decade, the potential for international instability and turmoil will be very high. In this difficult setting, the intelligence community must continue to identify and, indeed, anticipate the changes in the foreign political, military and economic environment.

One of the greatest challenges faced by intelligence professionals may well be the development of improved ways of analyzing and disseminating intelligence information. Developing, procuring and employing the most cost-effective and mission-effective collection systems will, of course, continue to be vital tasks. Our technical capability to collect intelligence should keep pace with needs though, and collection in the 1980s will likely be characterized by the generation of a large variety and heavy volume of timely, but "raw," data, especially in times of crisis. To ensure

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the data is used effectively, our analytical and dissemination capabilities must be equal to the technical potential of collection systems. This will require progress in several areas.

First, to separate and correlate the key bits of information in a large volume of data, better analytical tools will be required. Many of the approaches to answering this problem undoubtedly can be found in the data automation field. Computer-assisted analysis capabilities will be essential.

# CRITICAL INTELLIGENCE ISSUES OF THE 80s

## Marine Corps Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition in the 80s

**U**NDER THE BEST OF CONDITIONS, the requirement to "find and fix" the enemy's movers, shooters and emitters is a challenge to any organization's reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition (RSTA) capability. Looking forward to the 1980s, this challenge to the Marine Corps is even more imposing.

While rapid deployment in response to worldwide contingencies has long been a demonstrated capability of the Marine Corps, the advent of the Maritime Prepositioning Ships (MPS) concept introduces new complications for the Marine Corps in the 1980s. In addition to maintaining our traditional role of forceable entry in amphibious operations, we must be prepared to move rapidly by air, marry up with our forward deployed equipment prepositioned aboard specially configured commercial ships in the objective area and then carry out any one of a myriad of operational missions assigned.

This complex activity must be executed in a manner which ensures that the Marine commander has continuous and responsive intelligence support throughout the entire process, from the airlift phase to the potential "movement to contact" phase. Yet, the very nature of MPS deployment suggests that the commander will frequently be separated from his normal intelligence and RSTA assets. During such periods, the commander must rely on theater or national intelligence assets to keep abreast of a potentially volatile and changing situation. This, in turn, places heavy reliance on his accompanying communications, both while airborne and upon reaching the objective area. Upon arrival in the area, he may find Marine forces deployed with Navy, Army and Air Force units, each having unique organic RSTA assets. Service system interoperability now becomes a factor as assets such as Air Force RF-4C's, Navy EP-3C's and Army SOTAS systems commence operations and provide products of high potential value.

The Marine Corps must be prepared to employ its RSTA assets in threat environments ranging from high

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intensity against modern, sophisticated opposition, to low intensity against insurgents, terrorists or similar groups with varying degrees of combat capability. The weapon systems and emitters we must "find and fix" may be Communist-produced or may be of United States or Allied origin.

As the state-of-the-art technology is incorporated into the weapon systems of the 80s, the need for real-time and near-real-time systems to detect and engage the opposition becomes essential. We look forward to a Marine Corps tactical intelligence system in the mid-80s which comprises automated SIGINT collection, processing and dissemination, including airborne collection and direction finding capabilities; enhanced capabilities in ground sensors, including a capability for remote emplacement; and the fully-fielded Marine Air-Ground Intelligence System with its capability to integrate products of theater and national systems to provide timely, responsive intelligence support to Marine commanders.

The challenge of the 80s is clear: a tactical RSTA system which will provide tailored and timely intelligence; the flexibility to operate under varying and demanding conditions; interoperable with other Service theater and national systems; as mobile as the unit it supports; capable of rapid deployment; and supported by communications which will ensure that the products get to the commander in time for decisive actions.

The Marine Corps acknowledges the contributions of the AFCEA community toward meeting this challenge, and looks forward to your continued assistance.